

Document Generated: 05/10/2026

Learning Style: On Demand

Technology: Cisco

Difficulty: Intermediate

Course Duration: 40 Hours

Understanding Cisco Data Center Foundations (DCFNDU) V2.0 - On Demand



Course Information

About this course:

This course will prepare you for entry-level data center roles.

The course will teach you the foundational knowledge and skills you need to configure Cisco data center technologies, including SAN networking, virtualization, networking and unified computing. You will get hands-on experience with configuring features on Cisco Nexus® Operating System (Cisco NX-OS) and Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®). You will also get an introduction to Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure (Cisco ACI™), cloud computing and automation.

Course Objective:

You will be equipped with following skills after taking this course:

- Describe the foundations of data center networking
- Describe Cisco UCS Manager
- Describe the purpose and advantages of application programming interfaces (APIs)
- Describe Cisco ACI
- Describe the basic concepts of cloud computing
- Describe Cisco Nexus products and explain the basic Cisco NX-OS functionalities and tools
- Describe Layer 3 first-hop redundancy
- Describe Cisco Fabric Extender (FEX) connectivity
- Describe N-Port Virtualization (NPV) and N-Port Identifier Virtualization (NPIV)
- Describe data center Ethernet enhancements that provide a lossless fabric
- Describe Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE)
- Describe data center server connectivity
- Describe Ethernet port channels and virtual port channel (vPCs)
- Introduce switch virtualization, machine virtualization, and network virtualization
- Compare storage connectivity options in the data center
- Describe Fibre Channel communication between the initiator server and the target storage
- Describe Fibre Channel zone types and their uses

Audience:

- Server administrators
- Network managers
- Cisco integrators and partners
- Data center administrators
- Data center engineers
- Systems engineers

Prerequisite:

You should have the following knowledge and skills to fully benefit from this course:

- Good understanding of the VMware environment

- Basic knowledge of Microsoft Windows operating systems
- Good understanding of networking protocols

These Cisco courses are recommended to help you meet these prerequisites:

- Introducing Cisco Data Center Networking (DCICN)
- Introducing Cisco Data Center Technologies (DCICT)
- Implementing and Administering Cisco Solutions (CCNA)

Course Outline:

Describing the Data Center Network Architectures

Cisco Data Center Architecture Overview
Three-Tier Network: Core, Aggregation, and Access
Spine-and-Leaf Network
Two-Tier Storage Network

Describing the Cisco Nexus Family and Cisco NX-OS Software

Cisco Nexus Data Center Product Overview
Cisco NX-OS Software Architecture
Cisco NX-OS Software CLI Tools
Cisco NX-OS Virtual Routing and Forwarding

Describing Layer 3 First-Hop Redundancy

Default Gateway Redundancy
Hot Standby Router Protocol
Virtual Router Redundancy Protocol
Gateway Load Balancing Protocol

Describing Cisco FEX

Server Deployment Models
Cisco FEX Technology
Cisco FEX Traffic Forwarding
Cisco Adapter FEX

Describing Port Channels and VPCs

Ethernet Port Channels
Virtual Port Channels
Supported VPC Topologies

Describing Switch Virtualization

Cisco Nexus Switch Basic Components
Virtual Routing and Forwarding
Cisco Nexus 7000 Virtual Device Contexts (VDCs)

VDC Types
VDC Resource Allocation
VDC Management

Describing Machine Virtualization

Virtual Machines
Hypervisor
VM Manager

Describing Network Virtualization

Overlay Network Protocols
Virtual Extensible LAN (VXLAN) Overlay
VXLAN Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) Ethernet VPN (EVPN) Control Plane
VXLAN Data Plane
Cisco Nexus 1000VE Series Virtual Switch
VMware vSphere Virtual Switches

Introducing Basic Data Center Storage Concepts

Storage Connectivity Options in the Data Center
Fibre Channel Storage Networking
Virtual Storage Area Network (VSAN) Configuration and Verification

Describing Fibre Channel Communication Between the Initiator Server and the Target Storage

Fibre Channel Layered Model
Fabric Login (FLOGI) Process
Fibre Channel Flow Control

Describing Fibre Channel Zone Types and Their Uses

Fibre Channel Zoning
Zoning Configuration
Zoning Management

Describing Cisco NPV Mode and NPIV

Cisco NPV Mode
NPIV Mode

Describing Data Center Ethernet Enhancements

Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Data Center Bridging
Priority Flow Control
Enhanced Transmission Selection
Data Center Bridging Exchange (DCBX) Protocol

Congestion Notification

Describing FCoE

- Cisco Unified Fabric
- FCoE Architecture
- FCoE Initialization Protocol
- FCoE Adapters

Describing Cisco UCS Components

- Physical Cisco UCS Components
- Cisco Fabric Interconnect Product Overview
- Cisco I/O Module (IOM) Product Overview
- Cisco UCS Mini
- Cisco Integrated Management Controller (IMC) Supervisor
- Cisco Intersight™

Describing Cisco UCS Manager

- Cisco UCS Manager Overview
- Identity and Resource Pools for Hardware Abstraction
- Service Profiles and Service Profile Templates
- Cisco UCS Central Overview
- Cisco HyperFlex™ Overview

Using APIs

- Common Programmability Protocols and Methods
- How to Choose Models and Processes

Describing Cisco ACI

- Cisco ACI Overview
- Multitier Applications in Cisco ACI
- Cisco ACI Features
- VXLAN in Cisco ACI
- Unicast Traffic in Cisco ACI
- Multicast Traffic in Cisco ACI
- Cisco ACI Programmability
- Common Programming Tools and Orchestration Options

Describing Cloud Computing

- Cloud Computing Overview
- Cloud Deployment Models
- Cloud Computing Services

Credly Badge:



Display your Completion Badge And Get The Recognition You Deserve.

Add a completion and readiness badge to your LinkedIn profile, Facebook page, or Twitter account to validate your professional and technical expertise. With badges issued and validated by Credly, you can:

- Let anyone verify your completion and achievement by clicking on the badge
- Display your hard work and validate your expertise
- Display each badge's details about specific skills you developed.

Badges are issued by QuickStart and verified through Credly.

[Find Out More](#) or [See List Of Badges](#)